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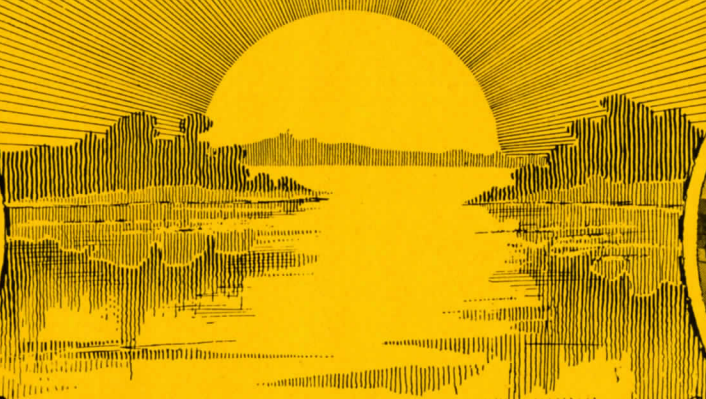
Vol. 1 No. 4

Jan. 25, 1913

# MEMPHIS COMMISSION GOVERNMENT



City Hall



Central Police Station

THE GATEWAY TO THE GOLDEN WEST



ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE CITY OF MEMPHIS

BLUFF CITY  
ENG. CO.  
MEMPHIS



# ROSTER OF CITY OFFICIALS

**MAYOR**

**Edward Hull Crump**

*W. M. Pope, Sec'y to Mayor*

**VICE-MAYOR**

**R. A. Utley**

## **Board of City Commissioners**

### **Department of Public Affairs and Health**

**E. H. Crump, Commissioner**

*Dr. Max Goltman, Supt. Health*

### **Department of Fire and Police**

**R. A. Utley, Commissioner**

*W. J. Hayes, Chief of Police*

*John McFadden, Chief Fire Dept.*

### **Department of Streets, Bridges and Sewers**

**Geo. C. Love, Commissioner**

*J. H. Weatherford, City Engineer*

### **Department of Accounts, Finance and Revenue**

**E. R. Parham, Commissioner**

*Ennis M. Douglass, City Clerk*

*Frank S. Omberg, City Treasurer*

*J. T. Miskeal, City Paymaster and Purchasing Agent*

### **Department of Public Utilities, Grounds and Buildings**

**Thomas Dies, Commissioner**

*Dan C. Newton, Building Inspector*

**CITY ATTORNEY**

*Chas. M. Bryan*

**CITY TAX ASSESSOR**

*T. G. Scarbrough*



# MEMPHIS COMMISSION GOVERNMENT

ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE CITY OF MEMPHIS

Volume 1

Memphis, Tennessee, January 25, 1913

Number 4

## PROSPECTIVE AND RETROSPECTIVE

The advent of the year 1913 ushered in the fourth year of Commission Government for Memphis. Another milestone has been reached and passed in the city's march of progress since the last number of MEMPHIS COMMISSION GOVERNMENT.

Gauging the future by the past, Memphis should make great strides within the next twelve months, and indeed it will prove a disappointment to Mayor Crump and his associate Commissioners if 1913 does not surpass those years which have gone before in the matter of advancement along civic lines.

Many plans which had their inception last year or preceding years are expected to mature during this year. Many new ones will probably be formulated and some of them carried out before 1914. It is the hope of the Mayor and Commissioners to accomplish something of real benefit to each section of the city as well as to better conditions in the city at large.

### Budget Making On.

The City Commissioners are busy now preparing their budget estimates for the current year. Until this task is completed and the City Tax Assessor completes his assessment work for the year, it will not be possible to forecast with any degree of accuracy just what can be done in any department in the way of carrying out plans for improvements.

Notwithstanding the city now enjoys the lowest tax rate, by far, in its history, an effort will be made to reduce it again this year. It is not the purpose of the Commission, however, to accomplish this by permitting the city to take a single backward step, nor by inflating assessments.

Last year a cut was made in the tax rate despite the heavy expense incurred by the City of Memphis, incident to the high water which swept the entire Mississippi valley, during which time this city cared for nearly three thousand refugees from the lowlands of Arkansas and Mississippi. This was an agreeable surprise to local taxpayers, a majority of whom were expecting a material increase.

Last summer, through the efforts of Commissioner George C. Love, public baths were established in North Memphis. During the coming summer Mayor Crump hopes to be able to announce an extension of the bath to some other section of the city.

### Will Extend Playgrounds.

Last summer hundreds of children romped and played on the first public playground to be established in Memphis, at Fourth street and Washington avenue. Preparations are already under way to open a second playground at

an early date at McLemore avenue and Neptune street, a site for the purpose having been donated by the Institute Presbyterian church. Credit for both is due the city's special playground committee, composed of Messrs. C. E. Coe, J. M. Steen and William Bergschicker.

Last year the city constructed and put in operation a modern crematory for the destruction of garbage, on High street. This year it is hoped another may be put in operation at some point in the southeastern section of the city.

Last summer, through a co-operative plan in which the city and abutting property owners joined, Madison avenue was brilliantly lighted with beautiful boulevard cluster lights from Front street to the Lyric theatre. Plans are already under way whereby it is proposed to establish a similar "White Way" on Main street, to extend from Railroad avenue on the south to Auction avenue on the north. In the meantime the extension and development of street lighting throughout the city will continue in the future as in the past, under the supervision of Commissioner Dies.

### Departments Thrive.

The efficiency of the fire and police departments was greatly increased during 1912, through the untiring efforts of Commissioner R. A. Utley. As a result the city was better policed than ever before and the year closed on the best record the fire department ever made. New and modern equipment has been added in both departments, and the police are now uniformed according to the metropolitan standard. Plans for this year include the establishment of a new fire station, for the Twenty-first ward, and the erection of a steel practice tower for the use of firemen, in the rear of Central police headquarters.

During the year 1912 the first two subways to be constructed under what is known as the "subway ordinance" were opened to traffic. Long before the close of 1913 two more will be completed and others will have been started. The two now under construction are those under Railroad avenue at Main street and at South Fourth street. According to Commissioner George C. Love there will be no halt in subway construction until every subway now provided for by city ordinance is opened to traffic. In the meantime street improvements will continue as in the past.

Plans which have been in the hands of special committees for the past year or more are expected to crystallize in 1913 in the erection of two additional municipal hospitals—one a hospital for communicable diseases and the other a tuberculosis hospital. A site for the

former was purchased some time ago, on Madison avenue, between the City Hospital and Engine House No. 7. It is proposed to make both institutions thoroughly modern and up-to-date in all appointments.

### Last Year a "Hummer."

One of the most progressive steps taken by the city during the past year was that of taking over the collection of its own taxes and other city revenues, at a saving of from \$10,000 to \$12,000 per year. This service, prior to September 1, 1912, was performed by the County Trustee at a cost of one-half of one per cent. on every dollar handled. It is now performed by the City Treasurer, under the supervision of Commissioner E. R. Parham, in charge of accounts, finance and revenue.

Memphis prospered in 1912 financially, industriously and along all civic lines as she has never prospered before. Local bank clearings outstripped those of 1911 by approximately sixty millions of dollars, and not a single bank failure occurred to mar the splendid record for the year. Highly creditable gains were made in postal receipts and internal revenue collections, both of which are considered barometers of a city's growth and progress.

In every section of the city could be heard the merry music of hammer, saw and trowel, throughout the year, and as a result 1912 goes down in history as Memphis' banner year in building activity. As a result hundreds of new homes have sprung up on all sides, and scores of new business houses and factories have reared their heads in business and industrial localities.

### Let All Join Chorus.

The coming year gives promise of even greater accomplishments in the way of building. Many big projects which have already been started will be completed long before another New Year's day, including the new Chisca Hotel, the fifteen story annex to the Bank of Commerce and Trust Company's building, and others. Work upon the new Illinois Central passenger terminals, already begun, will be pushed during the year, and it is expected that the new Rock Island bridge across the Mississippi river will be well under way before the arrival of summer.

Let's all pull together, stay together and work together to make 1913 known throughout the land as "Memphis Year."



## OBJECT LESSONS IN CITY BUILDING



With this issue, MEMPHIS COMMISSION GOVERNMENT inaugurates a series of "Object Lessons in City Building" in the form of photographs, showing substantial improvements which have been made in Memphis since Commission Government was adopted. The first of the series, appearing on this page, shows the effect of resurfacing South Court Avenue. The photographs will appear each month until the series is concluded.—Editor.

### Crump's Phone War Has Borne Fruit

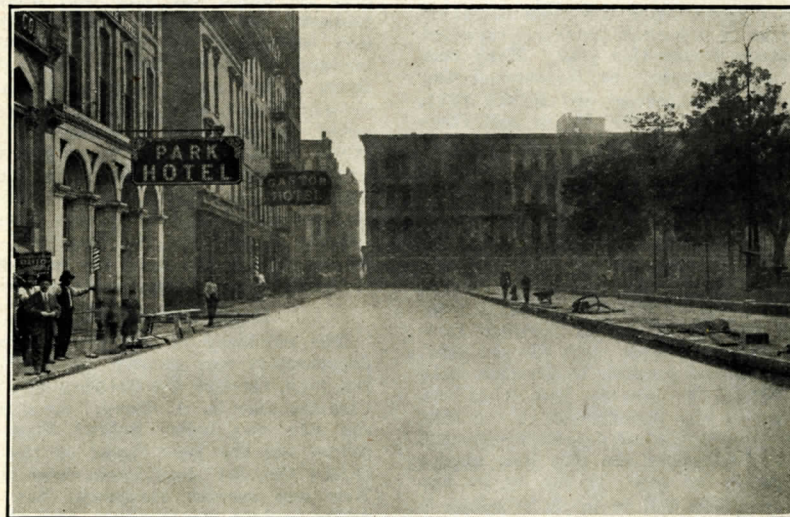
Whether or not Mayor Crump's fight against the telephone trust, now pending in the legislature, results in complete victory, which now seems entirely probable, much has already been accomplished for local phone users in the way of rate reductions and a more equitable plan of collections.

It is, of course, possible that the Cumberland Telephone Company's announcement of plans for extensive improvements in Memphis was not prompted, or even hastened, by the fight waged by the city; however, there is hardly any one who will doubt that the Mayor's attitude is responsible for the reduction for certain classes of service, which became effective January 1.

Under the revised schedule, unlimited direct line service for business phones now costs \$6.00 per month, net, whereas the rate heretofore has been \$7.00, net. Unlimited two-party line business service has been inaugurated, the rate being \$5.00, net, also a direct line business service, for inward calls only, at \$3.50, net. Rates on residence service remains as heretofore.

Bills for all classes of service are now payable monthly, in advance, instead of quarterly, in advance, as has been the practice in the past.

The Cumberland company will erect a five-story, steel building, on East Court avenue, between Second and Third streets, in which it is promised new and modern equipment will be installed to supplant the antiquated equipment with which the local patrons have been served in the past. It is the ultimate plan to add three more stories to the building as the demands of the business require, it is said.



### RESURFACING OLD PAVEMENTS

MEMPHIS COMMISSION GOVERNMENT presents herewith the first of a series of companion views showing the conditions before and after the improvements of streets at various points in the City of Memphis.

This month a section of Court Avenue running along the south side of Court Square from Main street to Second street, is shown.

This is one of several streets which was resurfaced with sheet asphalt during the summer of 1910 and the work has been very satisfactory indeed.

A number of streets down town which had been paved with vitrified brick for a period of from twelve to eighteen years had begun to fail seriously and it was a question as to what method should be used in repairing them. It was finally determined to use sheet asphalt on top of the old pavement. The process was that of filling the holes in the old pavement with concrete. A paint coat was then applied to the whole to afford a contact between the old surface and

the new asphalt top which had a thickness of two inches.

The cost of the work of preparing the surface of the old pavement amounted in the aggregate to an average of thirty cents per square yard and the cost of the asphalt top was \$1.35 per square yard, making the total average cost of the improvement \$1.65 per square yard.

There were altogether approximately 10,000 square yards of pavement laid on Court avenue, Monroe avenue, Union avenue, Gayoso avenue, Center Lane and McCall place. The work was done by the Memphis Asphalt & Paving Co., a local firm.

At the time when this work was done this method was not being very widely used and many inquiries have been received from other cities in the United States as to the success of the method. This class of work has since come to be recognized as one of the standard methods of street construction in handling old pavements throughout the country.

### Offer Reward For Graft Information

Do you know of any employe of the City of Memphis who has been guilty of "graft?"

If you do, you can turn your knowledge into cash by coming forward with substantial information and submitting it to the City Commissioner in whose department such person is employed.

Acting on a suggestion made by Mayor Crump, the City Commissioners have adopted a resolution offering the sum of \$50 as a reward in each case for substantial information to the effect that a person connected with the city government is guilty of "graft." The suggestion was formally submitted by Mayor Crump at the regular meeting of the Board of City Commissioners on December 31, 1912. The offer is a standing one and applies not only to persons who may have been guilty before its promulgation, but to those also who may yield to temptation in the future. The Mayor's formal suggestion is as follows:

#### Mayor Submits Plan.

Memphis, Tenn., December 31, 1912.

To the Honorable  
Board of City Commissioners,  
City of Memphis.

Gentlemen: Now that the city is about to enter upon a new year, I desire to suggest and urge the propriety of each department posting a standing offer of a reward of \$50 to any person who can and will, at any time, furnish substantial proof that any individual connected with the city government has been guilty of so-called "graft."

In offering this suggestion I do not wish to be misunderstood. It is neither my purpose nor desire to place myself in the attitude of criticising or in any way reflecting upon the conduct of any person on the city's payrolls. On the contrary, I believe I am justified in saying that the city government has never been on so high a plane before as it has since Commission Government was inaugurated.

The government has been practically free from "grafting."

There is less drinking on the part of employes than ever before.

There is a general air of business prevalent in all departments and employes are evincing a keener interest in their work. They are getting to work earlier and staying later than was the case under the old form of government.

I am offering the suggestion, however, and hope it will be acted on, because I think we should take every possible precaution to guard against the retention of any man who may bring the position he holds into disrepute, though I know of no one who is doing this at the present time.

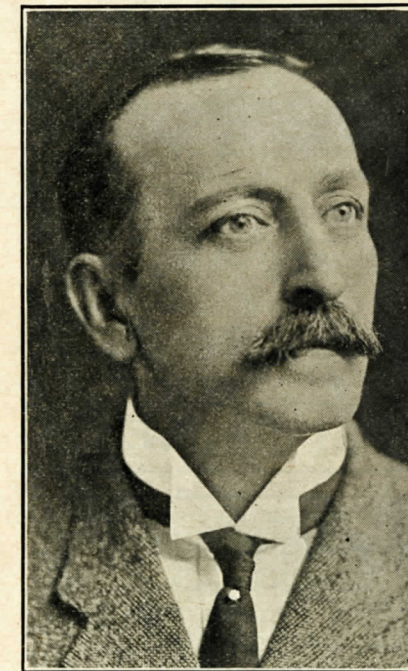
Respectfully submitted,  
(Signed) E. H. CRUMP,  
Mayor.

### Auditorium-Armory Campaign Launched

Perhaps the most important public work the Business Men's Club has ever undertaken is the building of a suitable auditorium and armory.

Mayor Crump and his associate Commissioners will co-operate in every way possible in the movement. While plans are yet in an embryo stage, it is proposed to seek a substantial appropriation from the state as a nucleus.

Memphis is so centrally located, it is so accessible to all parts of the country, that it is rapidly becoming the convention city not only of the South, but of the United States. It is no trouble to get conventions to come to Memphis. They are knocking at her doors daily. Memphis entertains now any number of conventions, but because of a lack of a large—a real large—convention hall, it must forego the pleasure and the profit



W. C. DUTTLINGER

of entertaining the larger conventions and national assemblages, and it is denied the enjoyment of listening to high class concerts at a very small cost.

It was to provide for all of this that the present directors of the Business Men's Club prevailed upon Mr. W. C. Duttlinger to take up the work of organizing a committee to provide for the ways and means and do the things necessary to secure "FOR MEMPHIS" a modern auditorium and armory, quite in keeping with its importance as a meeting place and one which will be as good as any city has.

The selection of Mr. Duttlinger as the man to "put it over" was fortunate. Those who are acquainted with him know that he has forgotten how to spell the word "failure," and that he would not know what "defeat" meant if he would meet it in the road, and that when he agreed to accept this very responsible position, which will be for him a labor of love, they knew that the convention hall would be built and that it would be a good one.

### Building Gain Last Year, \$1,303,068

Building operations in Memphis for the year 1912 reached the grand total of \$7,162,214, a clear gain of more than a million and a quarter dollars, or to be exact, \$1,303,068 over the year 1911. All previous records were broken and a "prosperity" mark set which will not be easy to pass.

Building Inspector Dan C. Newton predicts that the year 1913 will see a new high record.

During last year the Building Inspector issued 3,657 permits, for which the city received a total revenue of \$7,420.50, a gain in revenue over 1911 of \$932.50. The busiest month in the year was August, in which the million mark was passed, with October second and June third. The lightest months, in the order named, were January, April and December. This is accounted for by the fact that these three months are "bad weather" months.

#### New Code Is Ready.

The adoption of a new, or revised building code by the City Commissioners recently is expected to greatly facilitate building in Memphis, and will undoubtedly result in a better understanding between contractors, architects and the city authorities. Commissioner Dies now has on hand a large number of bound copies of the new code and any one interested may obtain one by calling at his office in the city hall. No charge is made; however, copies will only be furnished to persons who really have use for them.

"I can truthfully say that I have never seen the time when the outlook was brighter in Memphis than it is right today," said Inspector Newton, in discussing prospects for the new year. "Unless all indications fail there will not only be more buildings erected in 1913, but a better class of buildings than ever before. This is a healthy sign and speaks volumes for the confidence which home builders and investors feel in the future of the city."

#### The Year's Record.

The record, by months, for 1912, follows:

Month.	No. of Permits.	Total Valuation
January .....	176	\$ 252,170.00
February .....	268	602,221.00
March .....	333	499,316.00
April .....	323	274,454.00
May .....	393	684,435.25
June .....	326	709,326.90
July .....	310	680,629.00
August .....	362	1,101,595.00
September .....	314	644,515.00
October .....	316	750,891.00
November .....	249	588,505.00
December .....	287	374,156.00
Totals .....	3,657	\$7,162,214.15
Totals, 1911 .....	3,213	5,859,146.00
Gain .....	444	\$1,303,068.15

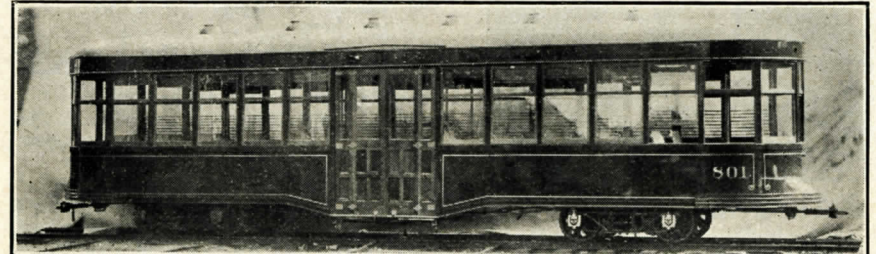


Comparative Statement of Receipts and Disbursements, City of Memphis, December 1911 and 1912

ACCOUNT.	1911.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
Meat Inspector.....	\$ 274.80	\$ 205.50	.....	\$ 69.30
Inspector Weights and Measures.	133.14	103.63	.....	29.51
J. T. Corbett, License Collector:				
Fees and Transfers.....	26.25	39.75	\$ 13.50	.....
Rents .....	1,770.00	2,325.00	555.00	.....
Pound Account.....	79.15	199.05	119.90	.....
*Plumbing Inspector.....	4,200.00	550.00	.....	3,650.00
Boiler Inspector.....	.....	117.00	117.00	.....
Building Commissioner.....	524.50	571.00	46.50	.....
Department of Accounts, Finances and Revenues, Salary, Printing and Expense:				
Interest on Daily Bank Balances	7,310.80	8,291.52	980.72	.....
Sundry Collections.....	23.75	3.00	.....	20.75
Arc Lights .....	823.75	486.25	.....	337.50
Gas Inspector.....	362.50	465.00	102.50	.....
Board of Health.....	85.00	159.00	74.00	.....
Streets, Bridges and Sewers.....	2,361.09	7,389.68	5,028.59	.....
City Hospital.....	1,261.29	2,178.57	917.28	.....
Market House.....	644.50	832.50	188.00	.....
Fines and Forfeitures.....	1,817.20	2,661.15	843.95	.....
Wharfage .....	645.15	654.20	9.05	.....
Turnpike Fund.....	.....	22,500.00	22,500.00	.....
Special Improvement Fund:				
Sale of Bonds and Premium...	.....	367,776.00	367,776.00	.....
Collections .....	1,653.99	.....	.....	1,653.99
Subways .....	.....	38,914.91	38,914.91	.....
Interior Electrical Inspector.....	493.45	552.93	59.48	.....
North Memphis Levee.....	31.98	.....	.....	31.98
Tuberculosis Hospital.....	15.60	.....	.....	15.60
Totals .....	\$ 24,537.89	\$ 456,975.64	\$ 438,246.38	\$ 5,808.63
Increase 1912 over 1911.....	432,437.75	.....	432,437.75	.....

\*In 1911 the Plumbing Inspector turned over all his collections for the entire year in the month of December.

New Trailers Find Favor



Memphis May Get Car Service to Riverside Park by Spring

Memphians will enjoy the long-denied pleasure of street car service to Riverside park with the opening of spring, if plans formulated by Mayor Crump are carried to successful termination. Acting on a resolution offered by the Mayor, and adopted by the Board of Commissioners on December 31, 1912, Commissioner Dies has requested the Memphis Street Railway Company to proceed with the construction of the Riverside park extension right away.

The street car company is under contract with the city to establish service to Riverside park as soon as the Main street subway is completed, but Mayor Crump wants the rails laid now, so there will be nothing more than a short connection to make when the subway is opened. In event the extension is completed before the subway is, the Mayor suggests that Riverside park cars could be operated temporarily through the Rayburn boulevard subway.

It has also been suggested that the proposed extension of the Vance-Central line to Cooper street be constructed beyond the Barksdale street subway, now in course of construction. This subway will undoubtedly be completed by spring, when it is hoped the extension will be ready to connect up.

**Peabody Extension.**

Work of extending the Peabody avenue car line from Barksdale street to Cooper street, on Peabody avenue, is now under way.

The new closed trailers now in service on the East End and Raleigh Springs lines have added much to the comfort of citizens using those lines.

Health Department Spent Active Year

Splendid progress was made by the city health department in 1912, according to figures compiled by Dr. M. Goltman, superintendent.

The most remarkable showing, and one which has brought Memphis to the attention of the entire country, was made in the number of deaths from typhoid fever during the year. While there were five less deaths in 1912 than occurred in the year previous, the fact that there was not a substantial increase is regarded as little short of marvelous, in the face of the contamination of the local water supply in certain sections of the city last spring, incident to the high water. The efficient manner in which the department handled this acute situation was the subject of widespread comment, both at home and abroad.

The resident white death rate of Memphis was reduced in 1912 from 9.72 to 8.92 per thousand population. A slight increase in the mortality rate among resident negroes was due to the general tendency of the times, chargeable to habits of living over which the department has no control. Reductions were made in the mortality rate for all contagious and communicable diseases, as follows:

	Deaths, 1912.	Deaths, 1911.
Tuberculosis .....	310	320
Typhoid Fever .....	77	82
Diphtheria .....	10	15
Scarlet Fever .....	1	3
	398	420

**Many Progressive Steps.**

Many progressive steps were taken by the department in 1912, looking to the betterment of local health conditions. Trained nurses were introduced in the public schools of the city, and the distribution of monthly health bulletins among the school children was also inaugurated last year. The following health ordinances were passed through the efforts of Superintendent Goltman and Mayor Crump:

An ordinance to regulate the sale of milk and bread under certain conditions.

An ordinance to provide for additional inspection of meat, meat products and live stock.

An ordinance providing for the screening of residence property during certain periods of each year.

An ordinance requiring dealers to report the sale of any vaccine or serum which may be used in treatment or prevention of transmissible diseases.

An ordinance adding cerebro spinal meningitis and infantile paralysis to the classification of contagious diseases.

An ordinance requiring the use of metal cans with metal covers as receptacles for garbage.

1912 BANNER YEAR WITH POLICE

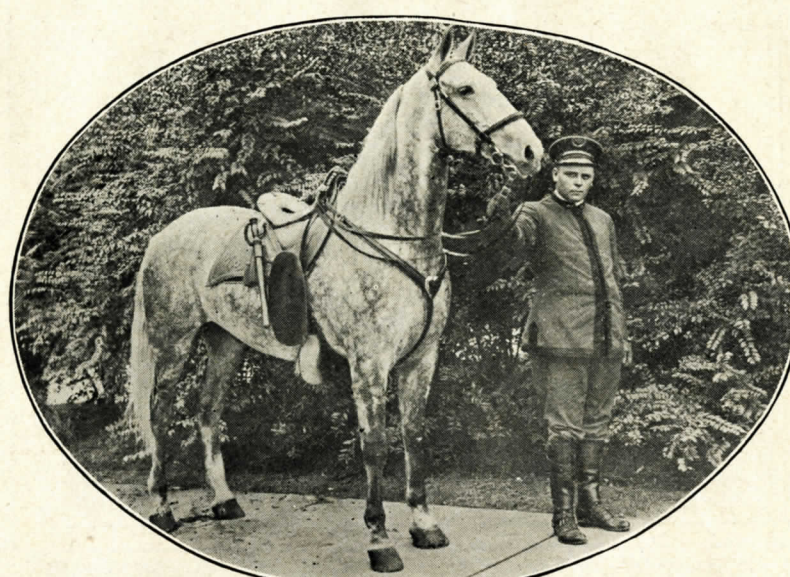
Safety and Sanity Mark Holidays Here

Much credit is due the police department for the splendid manner in which the holiday crowds were handled in Memphis. As a result of the vigilance exercised by the big squad of blue-coats, detailed especially for the occasions by Fire and Police Commissioner Utley, the city enjoyed a "Safe and Sane" Christmas and New Year's eve, in all that the term implies.

Experiences of former years when some merry-makers overstepped the bounds of reason, led Commissioner Utley to issue strict orders for the holidays, under which the throwing of confetti, flour and other substances, as well as the indiscriminate firing of pistols, was placed under the ban. A detail of seventy-five stalwart policemen was distributed along Main street, between Linden and Poplar avenues, and orders were given to arrest all violators of the police regulations, regardless of class or social standing. The result was astonishing to those who have witnessed scenes of disorder which have marked the arrival of Christmas and New Year in former years.

The public had been warned, and with but very few exceptions no disposition was shown to violate the regulations. The big crowds were kept moving and although typical holiday good humor prevailed there was no disorder. The new year was given a noisy welcome, but it was a welcome of whistles, horns and other harmless noisemakers, rather than a fusillade of shots fired indiscriminately upon the uptown thoroughfares.

Last year was a very busy one with the police department, and will take its place in local history as the most satisfactory. A total of 9,605 arrests were made during the year, 4,620 of the offenders being white people, and the remaining 4,985 being negroes. Analysis of the annual statistics compiled by the department shows that the greatest



MOUNTED PATROLMAN BRINKLEY AND "DIXIE"

MAIN STREET MOUNTED PATROL

Much of the credit for the tidy appearance which Main street presents is due to the vigilance of Mounted Patrolman Brinkley, who holds the distinction of having been the first mounted officer to see service with the local police department. He patrols the city's principal thoroughfare, between Calhoun avenue on the south and Poplar avenue on the north, his duty being chiefly to see that streets and sidewalks are kept clear of obstructions, and that chauffeurs and drivers obey the "rules of the road."

Patrolman Brinkley was among the first to receive appointment under civil service regulations, early in 1910, shortly after Commission Government became effective. His good service has earned him popularity among the business men of Main street, and his mount, "Dixie," is a general favorite.

number of arrests made in any single months was in May, when 1,053 persons came within the pale of the law, and the lightest month was October, when only 577 arrests were made.

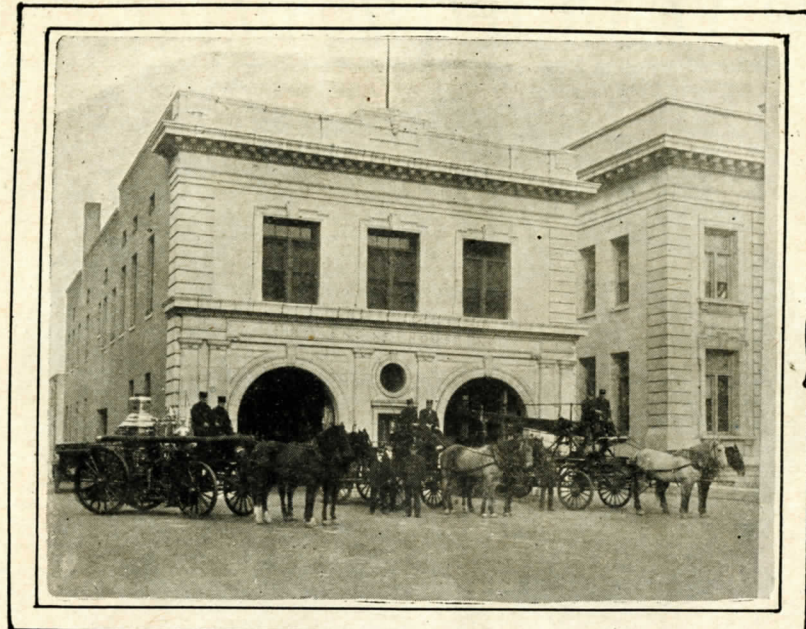
The detective branch of the department had a most successful year, too. The number of arrests made through this agency was 806, including some of national importance. The most notable arrest was that of Frank Holloway, escaped convict, and the breaking up of a gang of desperadoes, of which he was the leader. The total estimated value of stolen property recovered during the year by the detective branch was \$37,617.00.

The following statistics, compiled especially for MEMPHIS COMMISSION GOVERNMENT, cover the number and character of arrests made by the police department during the year 1912:

Month.	MALES.			FEMALES.			CHIEF CAUSES OF ARRESTS MADE BY POLICE IN 1912.												
	Arrests.	White.	Negroes.	White.	Negroes.	White.	Negroes.	Vagrancy.	Miscellaneous.	Drunk and Disorderly.	Disorderly Conduct.	Larceny.	Plain Drunk.	Assault and Battery.	Prowling.	Exceeding Speed Limit.	Carrying Concealed Weapons.	Violation of Health Laws.	Housebreaking and Larceny.
January .....	840	381	459	349	375	32	84	117	143	77	42	92	49	29	41	7	29	19	23
February .....	997	474	523	425	422	49	101	110	269	73	40	57	32	36	32	5	26	36	16
March .....	938	506	432	426	350	20	82	90	158	83	97	46	36	31	29	5	26	15	19
April .....	931	357	574	335	479	82	95	276	90	73	58	50	70	40	22	56	18	16	14
May .....	1053	549	504	463	387	86	117	195	104	105	77	65	62	45	62	33	16	31	13
June .....	803	382	421	345	330	37	91	170	82	65	51	48	39	44	35	44	17	27	18
July .....	790	308	392	234	312	24	80	108	100	55	81	53	21	67	31	29	14	18	14
August .....	645	294	351	256	268	38	83	101	67	77	53	47	23	41	11	23	15	26	10
September .....	710	351	359	308	262	43	97	112	97	86	74	46	18	48	42	12	10	11	11
October .....	577	275	302	243	253	32	49	77	105	80	53	46	30	33	19	...	32	8	10
November .....	681	375	306	307	251	68	55	68	75	77	80	46	49	19	24	11	28	16	11
December .....	730	368	362	333	287	35	75	93	146	109	41	61	34	27	8	...	29	7	12
Total .....	9605	4620	4985	4074	3976	546	1009	1517	1436	964	747	657	483	460	356	275	256	230	171



# A FEW REASONS WHY MEMPHIS ENJOYS LOW INSURANCE RATES



ENGINE HOUSE  
No. 1



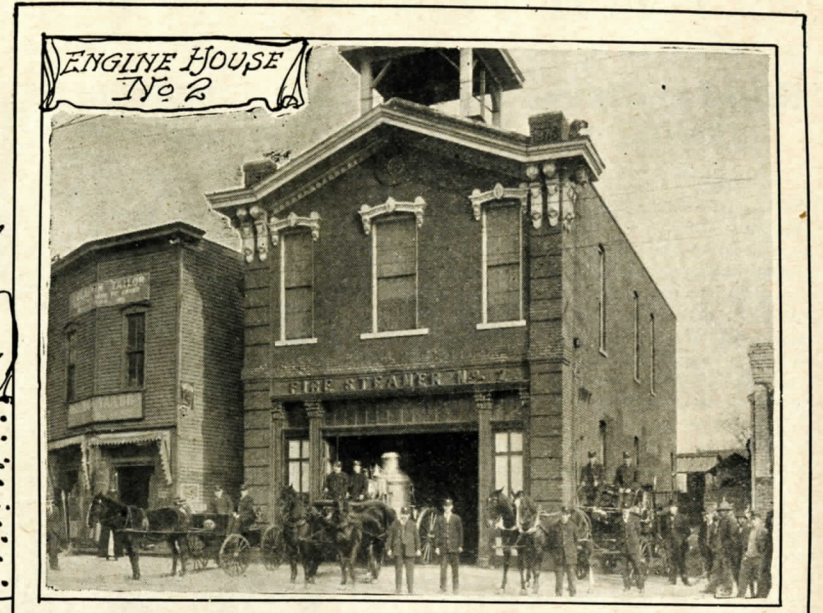
M. FITZ MORRIS  
1ST ASST. CHIEF

JULIUS  
VENTURINI  
SOUTH ASST. CHIEF

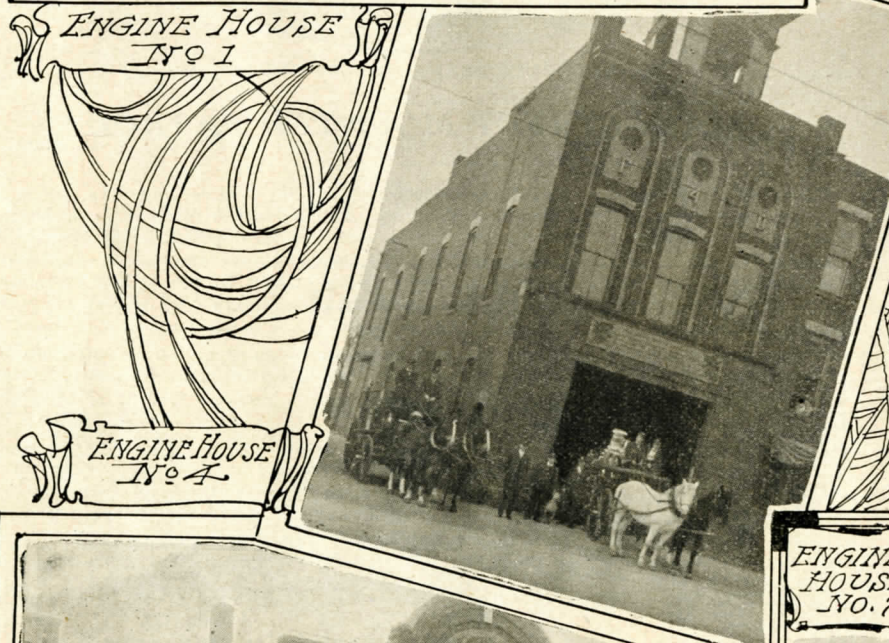
J.E. MCFADDEN - CHIEF

JOHN MOORE  
EAST ASST. CHIEF

JOHN DOLAN  
SEC. TO CHIEF



ENGINE HOUSE  
No. 2



ENGINE HOUSE  
No. 4



NO. 5 CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS



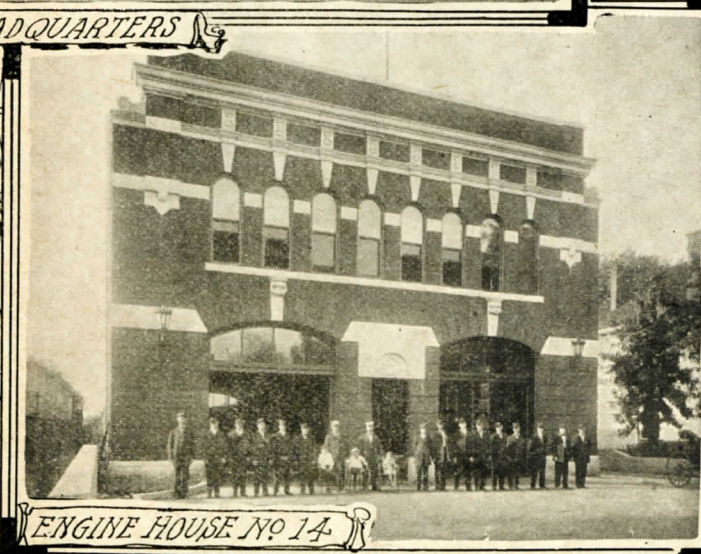
ENGINE  
HOUSE  
No. 11.



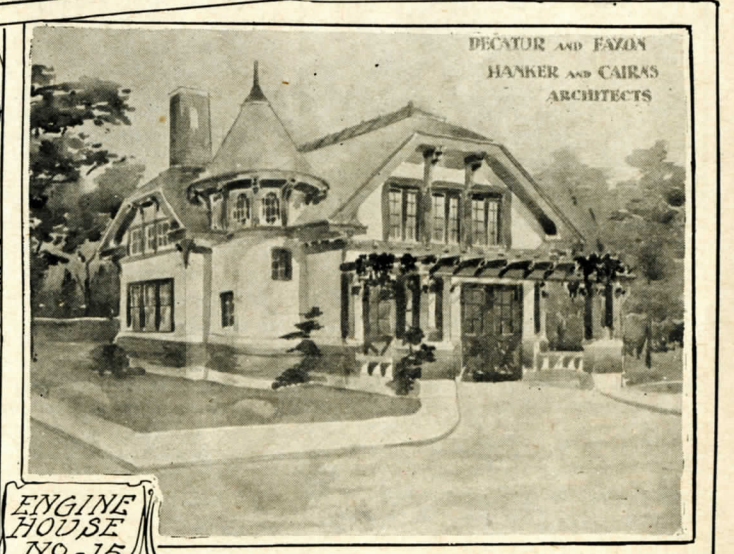
AUTO No. 12



ENGINE  
HOUSE  
No. 7



ENGINE HOUSE No. 14



ENGINE  
HOUSE  
No. 15

NINE OF THE FIFTEEN STATIONS COMPRISING MEMPHIS FIRE DEPARTMENT (NO. 15 PROPOSED)



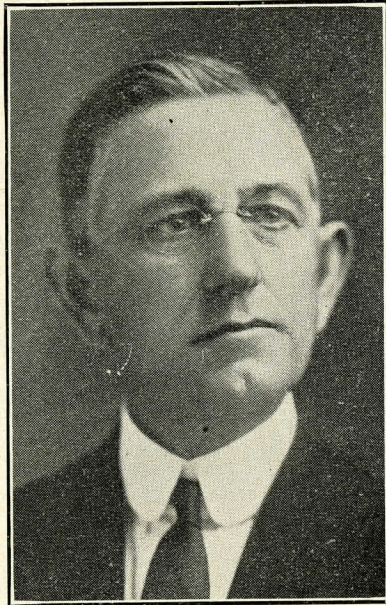
## WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

### Road Building is Problem in Shelby

Following the lead of the City of Memphis, Shelby County shook off the shackles of an antiquated and inadequate form of government and inaugurated Commission Government last year. As was the case with the City Commissioners, the new county officials were harassed and handicapped by political lawsuits until the Supreme Court sustained the act which created the commission, and they have but recently reached the point where they could proceed to put in operation plans which they had formulated for improvements.

The County Commission, as at present constituted, is composed of Thomas B. King, chairman; E. W. Hale, secretary, and John B. Duncan. Mr. King was elected early in December to succeed the late Hayden M. McKay. In addition to handling all county finances, the Commission has direct supervision over the following institutions, heretofore supervised by the County Court:

Shelby County Court House, Board of Health, County Morgue, County Pest House, Poor and Insane Asylum (the



THOS. B. KING,  
Chairman.

ers found themselves very much handicapped for funds, also, by the very bad condition of the turnpikes, especially the main roads leading into the city, the ones used most by the public.

The Commission went to work in the limited time (season for road building) and with the limited funds, trying to put the main roads in condition for the traveling public, and trying at the same time to make permanent improvements as far as possible, giving the roads the proper width, grades, drainage, etc.

The Commissioners believe that, in this progressive age, the public, as well as themselves, demand better built roads. To that end, five departments have been created and as many squads of work house prisoners have been put to work on these main turnpikes, ditching, reducing grades, making fills, etc., getting roads in condition for gravel.

The County Commissioners fully appreciate the magnitude of the road problem and expect to meet, as far as possible, the needs of the public in building and maintaining the pikes and dirt roads of the county.

#### A Big Problem.

There is no doubt but what this is one of the leading questions of the day and the taxpayers are willing to pay for the construction of better roads provided, of course, that the funds are properly and economically administered.

The South is but in the experimental stage of road building, and, up to now, the ignorance of those in charge has cost a great deal of unnecessary money. Experiment after experiment has been tried, many of which have proven to be signal failures, and all have cost the public untold sums of money.

In Shelby County the condition for road building is anything but favorable from the standpoint of economy. The

soil is so shifting because of the lack of gravel and sand, and the material for piking is so inaccessible that it makes the outlay very great to undertake to build and maintain the public roads.

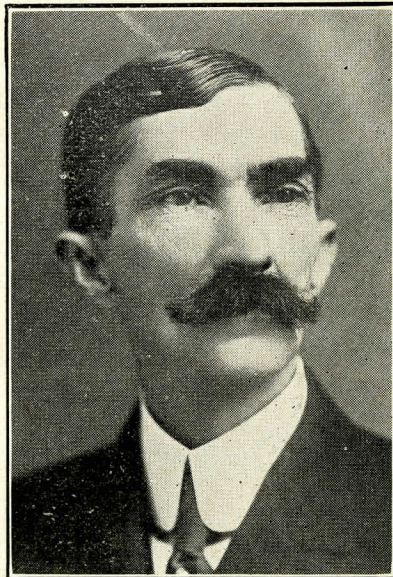
#### County Has Many Roads.

There are now 626 miles of pikes in Shelby county and 700 miles of dirt roads which have been graded and worked under a special act of the legislature, making a total mileage of what may be called public roads far in excess of the average county, not only in this state, but in any other state in the South.

The responsibility of the Commissioners, in this respect, is very great and they ask the public to lend as much co-operation as possible so that best results may be obtained. The Commissioners invite friendly criticism and are ever ready to hear any suggestions that the taxpayers and public may see proper to make concerning the duties that are imposed upon them by law.

There are two policies that have already been discussed as to the improvement and maintaining of the roads.

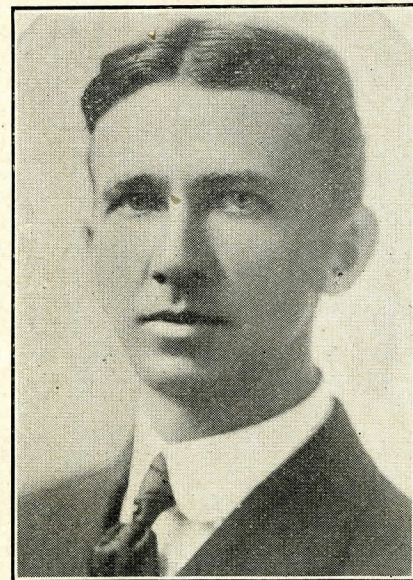
The first is that the work should be distributed all over the county, even if but little is done at the more needed



J. B. DUNCAN,  
Commissioner.

places, and the other is to build well and permanently by widening the base and using the very best of materials and continuing in this way until all of the roads at every point have been put in first class condition. The Commissioners have sought, in measure, to employ both of these policies as far as the funds would justify.

The Commissioners think that with the maturity of plans made for the future Shelby County will take her place in the ranks with other progressive counties and to that end, ask the public to be patient as all changes require more or less time to work out to the best advantage.



E. W. HALE,  
Commissioner.

last named institution, January 1, 1913), Shelby County Workhouse and the Turnpike Roads.

The Commission meets on the first Thursday of each month. All meetings are public and everyone or anyone are always cordially invited to attend these meetings, including all called meetings. While the Commission is in session almost daily, the public can always find one, and most of the time three, commissioners in their office in the Court House.

#### Start Under Handicap.

When the law was held constitutional by the Supreme Court, pertaining especially to the turnpikes, the Commission-

### Fire Department Has Best Year Yet

With a loss ratio of only 26.45 per cent. on insurance, the Memphis Fire Department last year smashed all records for the past twelve years. Incidentally the year passed with fewer disastrous fires than during any previous year; in fact, the greatest single loss sustained through fire in 1912 was considerably less than eighteen thousand dollars.

The department was called upon to respond to 1,042 alarms during the year, or an average of less than three a day. The total valuation of property attacked by fire was \$3,300,615, covered by insurance to the amount of \$2,666,667. The total property loss was \$324,396.11 and the total insurance loss amounted to \$259,946.47.

The rapidly increasing efficiency of the department is reflected in the figures for the past three years, as follows:

Loss Ratio Is Low.			
	Premiums.	Losses.	Ratio
1910	\$967,457.94	\$710,448.37	73.43
1911	953,096.53	366,367.95	38.44
1912	982,883.53	260,000.00	26.45

The year's fires included 502 in frame buildings and 197 in brick buildings, the remainder having been in buildings of various other characters. Through the efficiency of the department, 789 of them were confined to the rooms in which they originated, 112 to the building and 57 to buildings immediately adjoining.

The report is extremely gratifying to Fire and Police Commissioner Utley, and he is lavish in praising the efforts of Chief John McFadden and his men.

Chief McFadden desires to thank the Memphis Fire Insurance Patrol, better known as the salvage corps, for the excellent assistance given the department during the year. Captain Conroy and his men were always "on the job," and are deserving of much credit for their tireless efforts.

Plans for the new steel practice tower, to be erected on Washington avenue, in the rear of Central Police Headquarters, for the use of firemen, are now being considered by Fire and Police Commissioner Utley. It is expected the contract will be let within the next few days, in which event construction will follow as quickly as possible. Ladder climbing, hose raising, life saving, and other duties firemen are called upon to perform, will be practiced regularly.

Chief McFadden now answers fire alarms in his fine new "1913 Cadillac," the latest addition to the automobile equipment of the city of Memphis.

The "Red Devil," as the Chief's new car has already been dubbed on account of its fiery color, is driven by a fifty-horse power engine, and can develop a speed of about sixty-five miles per hour. In spite of its ponderous appearance, the car is probably the lightest of its size in Memphis, the body being made entirely of aluminum. The lamps, extinguishers and other fixtures are of solid nickel.

The city purchased the car through the H. A. White Auto Co., a local concern.

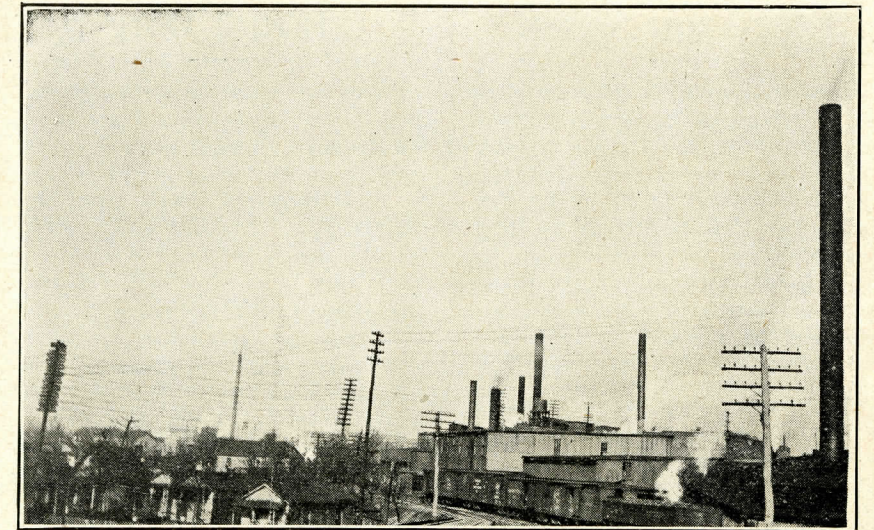
orth ead- a. ith t the corpor n is still un supervision of the New York depart- ho. to a tect T pany, L. 500,000 and is a distr surance Bros. T oper tire reins' Con

In 1911 Memphis showed an underwriting profit of 25 per cent on about \$950,000. During 1912 the underwriting profit appeared to be about 34 per cent on about \$985,000 premiums. This looks like a new loss ratio of 127 when it was usually a 110 per cent and rarely on down to 100 per cent. As compared with the previous year Memphis shows an increase in values in building construction amounting to 22 per cent; 3,658 building permits showed an estimated cost of construction to be \$7,214,150, an increase of \$1,300,000 over 1911.

The F - Phenix surp ing s - ed its office in gold, on The charg the N rner o

Insurance Field  
January 9-1913.

### Smoke Crusade Bears Fruit



Commissioner Dies' relentless warfare on the smoke nuisance is beginning to bring results.

In all parts of Memphis where heretofore smoke stacks belched forth great clouds of inky, soot-laden smoke, may be seen evidences of the work of City Smoke Inspector Sheehan. The accompanying picture affords a striking illustration of what has been accomplished in the way of smoke abatement through the introduction of modern appliances. The photograph was made by the Smoke Inspector in one of the busy manufacturing sections recently. Although the in-

dustries are all in full operation there is practically no smoke visible—in marked contrast to the spectacle presented before the plants were equipped with smoke consumers.

Commissioner Dies has recently been giving special attention to local ice factories, with the result that a great majority of them are now being equipped with smoke consuming devices, during their dull season. Commissioner Dies has served notice that no ice factory will be permitted to operate next summer unless the city smoke ordinance is complied with.



## WHY MEMPHIS STREETS ARE CLEAN



MODERN FLUSHING MACHINES IN ACTION

### Extend Conduits to Trezevant Street

Hundreds of unsightly telephone poles will disappear from the streets of Memphis within the next twelve months, with the extension of the conduit system. An ordinance extending the system to include practically all territory west of Trezevant street, lying between Lamar boulevard, on the south, and Jackson avenue, on the north, was introduced by Commissioner Dies and passed on first reading by the Board of City Commissioners on January 7th.

The most important thoroughfares to be affected by the new ordinance will be Union and Madison avenues.

Great strides have been made since the advent of Commission Government toward making Memphis a "City Beautiful." However, no single step in this direction could accomplish more than the elimination of overhead wires, together with the poles upon which they are strung. The city has been gradually extending the conduit system from year to year in order that no undue hardship might be imposed upon the wire using companies.

During the past year or two a great many poles have been eliminated from main thoroughfares and placed on property lines fronting alleys. In instances where it has been found impracticable to do this the owners of such poles have been required to keep them painted. With the extension of the conduit system, however, a great majority of these poles will come down and the wires will be placed underground.

### Main Street to Have White Way

Plans are rapidly maturing whereby Main street from Railroad avenue on the south to Auction avenue on the north is to be brilliantly lighted with beautiful boulevard cluster lights during this year. Though probably not of identical design, the lights will be similar in type to those in service on Madison avenue's "White Way."

A committee of citizens, headed by C. F. Farnsworth, is now engaged in interesting Main street property owners in the project. The city, through Commissioner Thos. Dies, has already reached an agreement with the Merchants Power Co. relative to the supply of current for the proposed new system.

The plan to be pursued is the same as that carried out on Madison avenue; that is, the property owners are to bear the cost of the ornamental standards and lamps, together with the cost of installation, on a front-foot basis, after which they become the city's property to be maintained as a part of the general street lighting system.

It is planned to light the new "White Way" with the opening of the Tri-State Fair this fall. With this end in view Commissioner Dies has already opened negotiations with a view of having a number of sample standards, of different designs, installed so no delay need be experienced in making a selection when the citizen's committee shall have finished its work.

### Bidders Scramble for Memphis Bonds

The stability of Memphis credit was emphasized to a highly gratifying degree on December 19, 1912, when A. G. Edwards & Son, of St. Louis, and E. H. Rollins & Son, of Chicago, bidding jointly, paid par, accrued interest and a premium of \$7,776 for a \$360,000 issue of front-foot assessment bonds. The premium was one of the highest ever received for Memphis bonds.

Thirteen financial institutions, among them some of the largest in the United States, bid on the Memphis bonds. This fact in itself is ample evidence that local bonds are held in high esteem. The price paid was equivalent to something over \$1,020 for each bond, the face value of which is \$1,000. The bonds mature in one, two, three, four and five years, one-fifth of the entire issue maturing each year until all are retired. They bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum from date of issue, December 1, 1912. The effect of the splendid premium received will be to reduce the interest to be paid by the city to a basis of about 5.20 per cent. The following firms were unsuccessful bidders:

Mercantile Loan & Trust Co., Chicago; W. R. Compton Bond & Mortgage Co., St. Louis; Harris Trust & Savings Bank, Chicago; Blodgett & Co., New York; Spitzel, Rorel & Co., Cincinnati; N. W. Halsey & Co., Chicago; Bank of Commerce & Trust Co., Memphis; Breed, Elliott & Harrison, Cincinnati; Commerce Trust Co., Kansas City; Continental & Commercial Savings Bank, Chicago; R. M. Grant & Co., New York, and Seasongood & Mayer, Cincinnati.

## Water Department Closes Busy Year

Last year was an unusually active one for the Memphis Artesian Water Department, and had it not been for the enormous expense caused by the overflow, in the spring, this would have been the most successful from a financial standpoint, in the history of municipal ownership.

The gross earnings were about \$450,000.00 or \$30,000.00 more than heretofore, and after paying all current expenses, maintenance, repairs, interest on bonds, and providing sinking funds for same, bearing the extra expense of the overflow, amounting to between \$30,000.00 and \$40,000.00, the Department has wound up the year without financial loss.

The amount of water pumped was nearly 5,000,000,000 gallons or an average of nearly 14,000,000 gallons per day.

Seven segregated wells and pumps were added to the pumping system during the year, increasing the capacity of the entire plant to about 30,000,000 gallons per day.

### Laid Many New Mains.

Over eighteen miles of mains were laid, containing larger sizes than usually the case, and increasing the total number of service to two hundred and fifty miles.

One thousand six hundred and fifty taps were made during the year, which makes about 23,000 connections in all.

The number of fire hydrants now in use is 1,525; 75 having been installed during 1912.

One thousand seven hundred and fifty new lead services were installed, making a total of 11,650, and 220 iron services renewed with lead, making a total of 5,200.

There are now 12,600 meters in use; 1,850 of them having been installed during 1912, at the request of the consumer.

230 valves were installed, making a total of 2,900 in use.

Six wells were bored during the year and a thorough system of flushing, overhauling and inspecting of the balance was carried out.

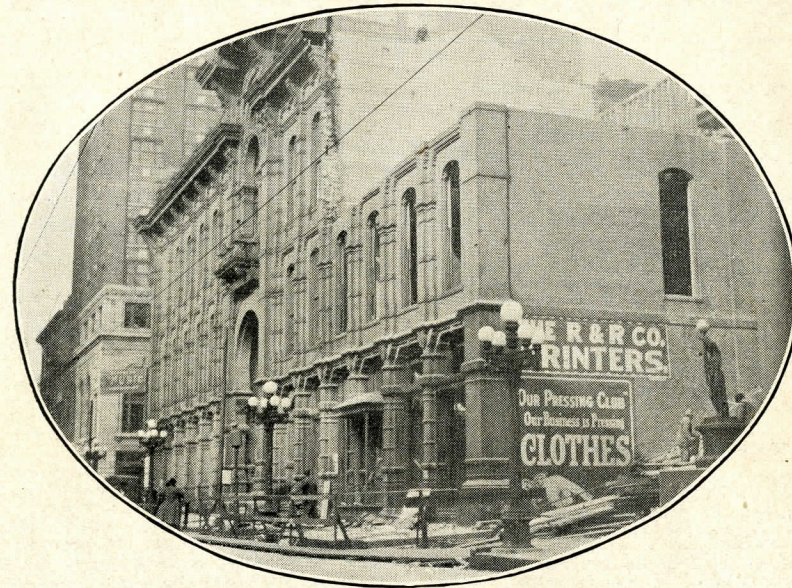
In every branch of the Department repairs were made to keep it up to the standard, all of which came out of the net earnings.

### JACKSON OFFICIALS PAY MEMPHIS INSPECTION VISIT.

Mayor-elect Swep J. Taylor, of Jackson, Miss., who has since dropped the "elect" from his title, headed a delegation of prospective officials of the Mississippi capital on a visit of inspection in Memphis on December 18th, last. The party also included Commissioners-elect R. M. Taylor and Herbert Spangler, City Attorney-elect William Hemingway, and Marcellus Grem, a prominent Jackson business man.

After spending several hours in conference with Mayor Crump, the party made a thorough investigation of the Memphis artesian water department, with a view of studying the workings of the artesian system.

## Old Landmark Passes



Famous for nearly a half century as one of the most important buildings of the city, the old Masonic Temple, at Madison avenue and Second street is about to fall before the wrecker's hammer to make way for more modern structures. Work of tearing the old landmark down has already begun at the east end, and within the next few months that portion of the structure will be replaced with banking houses, to

be occupied by Marx & Bensdorf, and the Mississippi Valley Trust Company.

The doom of the Masonic Temple was sealed not long ago when the structure was sold in sections to several different parties, for an aggregate price of about \$460,000, most of which will be used in the erection and equipment of a modern temple for various local Masonic orders, now in course of construction at Fourth street and Court avenue.

## • TERMINAL ORDINANCE IS UP

After several months of negotiations between Mayor Crump, Commissioner Dies and officials of the Arkansas & Memphis Railway Bridge & Terminal Company, the ordinance authorizing the construction of terminal facilities for the proposed bridge across the Mississippi river at Memphis, passed first reading Tuesday, January 14th. The ordinance is scheduled to come up for third and final reading on January 28th, after which the company has thirty days in which to file formal acceptance.

In dealing with the terminal people, Mayor Crump and Commissioner Dies drove a splendid bargain for the city, according to the consensus of general opinion. In addition to getting the bridge itself, which will undoubtedly be of untold benefit to Memphis, the city will get \$50,000 in cash and two new subways, as well as very favorable concessions in the way of freight rates and switching charges.

Briefly stated, the salient features of the terminal ordinance are as follows:

### Memphis Gets—

Bridge, with free wagon-way and terminals, to cost approximately six million dollars.

Fifty thousand dollars in cash, immediately following acceptance of the ordinance.

A subway at Georgia avenue, east of South Fourth street, and another at Pennsylvania street, south of Carolina avenue, including approaches, paving in subways and lights for same.

A satisfactory adjustment of differences heretofore existing between the Rock Island railroad and the Memphis Freight Bureau as to freight rates and switching charges.

Dedication of ten feet on the east line of South Fourth street, between Georgia and Calhoun avenues, to permit widening of street.

Terminal company must provide street that will connect Virginia avenue with the approach to the bridge on the Tennessee side.

Ordinance conditioned upon construction of bridge within specified time.

### Terminal Company Gets—

Right to cross city's right-of-way, Wright street, and Kansas street (all unimportant thoroughfares), at grade.

Right to close Webster and St. Paul avenues, and all alleys in between; also to close Louisiana, Arkansas, Indiana and Delaware streets, and all alleys between the north line of Virginia avenue and the south line of Railroad avenue, between Pennsylvania street and the river.



## COMMISSION MEETINGS IN TABLOID

### Tuesday, December 3, 1912.

Present—Vice-Mayor Utley and Commissioners Dies and Parham.

Revised Building Code Ordinance passed first reading.

Petition of Mrs. Maria McElroy to have error corrected in front foot assessment, referred to Commissioner Parham, with power to act.

Petition of T. E. Dunlap, asking to be relieved of personality assessment, referred to Commissioner Parham and the City Attorney.

Communication from City Engineer, notifying Commissioners that books of assessment were ready on following improvement ordinances: Nos. 190, 221, 299, 307, 312, 279, 285, 203, 280, 68.

### Tuesday, December 10, 1912.

Present—Vice-Mayor Utley and Commissioners Dies and Parham.

Petition of Twelfth and Thirteenth Ward Improvement Club, urging the construction of a viaduct over the tracks of the Illinois Central and Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad tracks at McLemore avenue, referred to Mayor Crump and Commissioner Dies.

Building Code Ordinance passed second reading.

Taxicab ordinance passed first reading.

Improvement Ordinance No. 337 passed first reading.

Improvement Ordinance No. 338 passed first reading.

Resolution authorizing City Clerk and Front Foot Assessment Clerk to make certain alterations in the assessment of property owned by A. M. King, adopted.

Petition of J. T. Spence, seeking relief from arbitrary assessment for personality taxes, referred to Commissioner Parham and City Attorney for report.

On recommendation of City Engineer, request of Jones & Furbinger, architects, for small amount of curbing to be placed in front of Merrill school, to be paid for at cost, was acted upon favorably.

Request of J. L. Lancaster, president, that Memphis Union Station Company be no longer required to furnish bond to the city in the sum of \$150,000, the company having completed its terminals as per contract, referred to Commissioner Dies.

Action of City Engineer in advertising for bids for vacuum priming pumps to be placed on North Memphis pumping stations, approved.

Petition of Irby Boyd, seeking permission to resubdivide a subdivision heretofore approved by the city, fronting Riverside boulevard, referred to City Engineer.

Petition of Atlas Portland Cement Company, seeking to purchase or secure a long-term lease on certain portions of Nettleton avenue, for purpose of erecting warehouse, referred to City Engineer, City Attorney and Commissioner Parham.

### Tuesday, December 17, 1912.

President—Vice-Mayor Utley and Commissioners Dies and Parham.

Bids opened for sale of \$360,000 short term street improvement bonds and same awarded to A. G. Edwards & Sons and E. H. Rollins & Sons, at par, accrued interest and premium of \$7,776.

Petition and protest of 126 citizens against proposed removal of Jackson Mound car line, referred to Mayor Crump and Commissioner Dies.

Representatives of Water Department appeared and asked authority to install meters where patrons on flat rate were found to be wasting water. Referred to Commissioner Dies for report.

Improvement Ordinance No. 337 passed second reading.

Improvement Ordinance No. 338 passed second reading.

Taxicab Ordinance passed second reading.

In view of protest signed by Casey Todd and others, and in absence of Commissioner Love, action on final order confirming Improvement Ordinance No. 190 was deferred one week.

In view of protest signed by Edward Abele and others, and in absence of Commissioner Love, action on final order confirming Improvement Ordinance No. 299 was deferred one week.

Final orders confirming book of assessment on following improvement ordinances were read and unanimously adopted: Nos. 68, 203, 221, 279, 280, 285, 307, 312.

Petition of Mrs. Lizzie Dix, for reduction in front foot assessment, referred to Commissioner Parham.

Resolution requesting Park Commission to refund city \$12,500, amount paid for redemption of park bonds, adopted.

Resolution requesting Commissioner Dies to make investigation of proposed increase in rates for water for fire protection, announced by Water Department, adopted.

Petition of H. P. Wade, seeking relief from personality taxes, referred to Commissioner Parham.

Communication from Deputy City Treasurer R. W. Parham, recommending that penalties and costs charged against J. M. Goff, through error in recording front foot assessment, be canceled, referred to Commissioner Parham.

Petition of John W. Bailey and others, asking city to disclaim title to certain strip of land claimed by petitioners, referred to Commissioner Parham, City Attorney and the City Engineer.

Petitioners of L. Shendelman, Dr. C. N. Downey, B. S. Mosely, Dr. J. C. Mobley, each seeking relief from or reduction in personality assessment, referred to Commissioner Parham.

Resolution confirming lease of certain city property to Bohlen-Huse Ice Company, adopted.

Opinion of City Attorney to effect that the city could not legally close Nettleton avenue, as prayed by Atlas Portland Cement Company, received and filed.

Petition of J. W. Campbell, seeking relief from taxes assessed for personality, referred to Commissioner Parham.

Resolutions offered by the Engineering Department, correcting errors in front foot assessments levied against Willie M. Norfleet, J. C. Ryan and Mrs. M. R. McElroy, adopted.

Building Code Ordinance, with certain amendments, passed third reading.

### Tuesday, December 24, 1912.

Present—Mayor E. H. Crump and Commissioners, Utley, Love, Dies and Parham.

Resolution in which city disclaims any title to certain strip of property claimed by John W. Bailey and others, in petition filed December 12, 1912, adopted.

A further postponement of one week was allowed upon final orders confirming books of assessment under Improvement Ordinances Nos. 190 and 299, protests upon which had previously been filed.

Resolution instructing City Engineer to stake off city's one-eighth right-of-way on Railroad avenue, east of Main street, also the two rights-of-way on Railroad avenue west of Main street, adopted.

Application of Bowdre Brothers, to be relieved of merchant's capital taxes as-

sessed by City Assessor, referred to Commissioner Parham.

Resolution exempting property owned by city and occupied by Central Police Station from front foot assessment, adopted.

Resolution directing City Engineer to prepare and maintain certain records with relation to curbing and paving, adopted.

Resolution authorizing the reassessment of certain property owned by Horn Brothers, said property having been resubdivided with the consent of the city, referred to Commissioner Parham and Chief Clerk Pashby, with instructions to obtain an opinion from City Attorney.

Petition of N. C. & St. L. Railroad, seeking permission to lay spur track across Willett street, referred to Commissioner Dies.

Improvement Ordinance No. 337 passed third and final reading.

Improvement Ordinance No. 338 passed third and final reading.

Petition of Commercial Underwriters, Inc., seeking relief from personality assessment, referred to Commissioner Parham.

Petitions of Dr. S. J. Sibley and J. W. Hays, each seeking relief from personality assessments, referred to Commissioner Parham.

Bids for priming pumps for North Main street pumping station opened and read.

### Tuesday, December 31, 1912.

Present—Mayor E. H. Crump and Commissioners Dies and Love.

Further postponement of one week allowed on final orders confirming the books of assessment under Improvement Ordinances Nos. 190 and 299.

On recommendation of City Engineer, all bids submitted on December 24, 1912, for priming pumps, were rejected and the City Engineer was authorized to purchase two pumps, meeting required specifications, in open market.

Taxicab Ordinance passed final reading.

Petition of 246 citizens seeking an extension of the cross-town car line from its present northern terminus to Jackson avenue, and to open Cleveland street, from Poplar avenue to Jackson avenue, referred to Commissioner Love and the City Engineer.

Acting on opinion of City Attorney, motion was adopted ordering city to take care of redemption of certain park bonds.

Communication from Mayor Crump, recommending that options on abutting property be secured with a view of widening Marshall avenue, between Monroe and Union avenues, referred to Commissioner Love and the City Engineer.

Resolution requesting Memphis Street Railway Company to proceed with work on certain extensions now under ordinance, adopted.

Communication from Mayor Crump suggesting that each city department post a standing reward for substantial proof that any city employee has been "grafting" adopted.

Petitions from C. E. Fitzgerald, Wm. A. Webster, Silas Riggs, W. W. Simmons, Charles A. Barton, Dr. W. C. Campbell and M. H. Gunther, each seeking relief from or reduction in personality or merchant's capital taxes, referred to Commissioner Parham.

Petition of W. C. Johnson and J. A. Hayley, proposing to deed certain streets to the city in exchange for the privilege of closing certain other streets in connection with the resubdivision of Magnolia Subdivision, referred to Commissioner Love and the City Engineer.



## ***VITAL FACTS CONCERNING MEMPHIS***

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**Memphis** is one of the largest cities in the world under COMMISSION form of government.

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**Memphis** is the healthiest city in the South, having one of the lowest death rates in the United States.

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**Memphis** has 170 miles of beautiful paved thoroughfares.

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**Memphis** washes streets, flushes sewers, and fights fires with the finest artesian water in the world.

---

**Memphis**, with her 17 lines of railroads and the Mississippi River enjoys the most attractive freight rates in the South.

---

**Memphis** is the world's largest inland cotton market, handling more than a million bales of the fleecy staple annually.

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**Memphis** is the largest hardwood lumber market in the world, according to United States government authority, and is growing in importance every day.

---

**Memphis** produces more cotton seed products than any other city in the world.

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**Memphis** is the third largest grocery jobbing market in the United States, catering to a territory unsurpassed by any other section of the country.

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**Memphis** parks, covering 814 acres, with her 24 miles of parkway, are famous throughout the nation. Their estimated value is over \$4,000,000.

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**Memphis** has the largest and most complete zoological garden in the South.

---

**Memphis** has magnificent public buildings.

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**Memphis** is the home of 175 steamboats.

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**Memphis** has 120 miles of street railway.

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**Memphis** has 160 churches.

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**Memphis** has 25 colleges and seminaries.

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**Memphis** has six business colleges and two medical colleges.

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**Memphis** has a superb public school system.

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**Memphis** has ten hospitals and three public libraries.



# Commission Government Means Progress

## *WHAT IS YOUR TAX RATE?*

**T**HIS is the first and most important question to be answered by any city to the prospective investor. Memphis taxpayers are now enjoying the lowest rate in the city's history—a total reduction of 18 cents having been made since the advent of COMMISSION GOVERNMENT—less than three years ago. Here is the record for 27 years:

YEAR	MAYOR	RATE
1886	Hadden	\$2.35
1887	Hadden	2.35
1888	Hadden	2.35
1889	Hadden	2.35
1890	Bethel	2.35
1891	Clapp	1.75
1892	Clapp	1.75
1893	Clapp	1.75
1894	Clapp	1.70
1895	Clapp	2.20
1896	Clapp	2.07
1897	Clapp	2.04
1898	Williams	1.99
1899	Williams	2.24
1900	Williams	2.09
1901	Williams	2.05
1902	Williams	2.35
1903	Williams	2.88
1904	Williams	2.18
1905	Williams	2.54
1906	Malone	2.16
1907	Malone	1.97
1908	Malone	1.96
1909	Malone	1.76
1910	Crump—Commission Government	1.75
1911	Crump—Commission Government	1.59
1912	Crump—Commission Government	1.58

*Low Tax Rate*

*Low Freight Rates*

*Low Death Rate*